

Rock Creek Park

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

<http://www.nps.gov/rocr/>



March, 2014

Schedule of Events

www.nps.gov/rocr

202-895-6070



Over the years, women have had a profound influence on Rock Creek Park's myriad landscapes and even the night sky. In honor of Women's History Month, we invite you to attend one or all of our never-before-been-offered women's history programs. Special programs are highlighted in green below. Photos above: at left, Mary Foote Henderson (see March 8), and at right, Elizabeth Thomas (see March 29).

Saturday, March 1

- **Forgotten Stories of the Civil War: "The Confederate Army's Failed Attempt to Rescue Prisoners of War before the Battle of Fort Stevens" and "Civil War Cryptography"**
9:30 a.m. in the Nature Center As the Battle of Fort Stevens' 150th anniversary draws nearer, now is the time to learn about different aspects of Washington, DC's only Civil War battle. Join the Rock Creek Park Civil War Roundtable for two unique presentations followed by discussion. During the first presentation, Burnell Irby will discuss his genealogical research and recent discoveries linking his family to Point Lookout and CSA General Jubal Early's July 1864 attack on Fort Stevens. The second presentation will involve John Hampton discussing Civil War messaging technology, codes and ciphers. The presentation will then be followed by a hands-on cryptographic exercise.
- **Winter Night Sky** 1:00 p.m. at the Nature Center Discover the brightest stars, planets, and constellations and hear their stories in the only planetarium in the National Park System. Recommended for ages 5 to adult.
- **Save Pinehurst Tributary Trees!** 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Meet at the basketball court along Beech Street NW, located just east of the intersection of Beech Street and Western Ave Join Rock Creek Conservancy Stream Team Leader John Burwell for an invasive plant removal event on the Pinehurst Tributary of Rock Creek. Volunteers will remove bush honeysuckle from the ground and other invasive plant species. For more information, visit www.rockcreekconservancy.org.
- **Exploring the Universe** 4:00 p.m. in the Planetarium Visit distant galaxies, nebulae, and other deep space objects and discover the wide world of astronomy without ever leaving your seat. Recommended for ages 7 to adult.

Sunday, March 2

- **A Women's History of Old Stone House** 10:00 a.m. at Old Stone House During a time when men owned most everything, did you know that the oldest building in DC was owned by a woman? Come join a ranger as we celebrate Women's History Month by taking a tour through Old Stone House. We will explore the influence of women on the house, from colonial days to the present.
- **Winter Night Sky** 1:00 p.m. in the Planetarium See description for March 1st.
- **Exploring the Universe** 4:00 p.m. in the Planetarium See description for March 1st.

Monday, March 3

- **Foundation Document Open House** 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at St. John's College High School's Vaghi Dining Room (2607 Military Road, NW) The National Park Service is preparing a foundation document to inform planning and management of Rock Creek Park. The park welcomes all interested persons to participate in this effort. To learn more and see how to prepare for the open house, visit <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/RockCreekFoundationDocs>.

Wednesday, March 5

- **Young Planetarium** 4:00 p.m. in the Planetarium Calling all kids: discover the wonders of the night sky during this introductory astronomy program. Geared for ages 4 to 10 and their families.

Friday, March 7

- **Creature Feature** 4:00 p.m. in the Nature Center Calling all kids: learn about park wildlife and help a ranger feed the Nature Center's live critters during this hands-on program. Ages 4 to 10.

Saturday, March 8

- **Matriarch in the Castle: Mary Foote Henderson’s Meridian Hill Park Walking Tour 10:00 a.m.** Meet at the northwest corner of Meridian Hill Park (16th Street and Euclid) Did you know that an eccentric woman who lived in a castle is considered “the Mother of Meridian Hill Park?” Learn the story of Mary Foote Henderson and the one- of- a- kind park during this special walking tour with Ranger Scott. Dress warmly.
- **Save Dumbarton Oaks Park! 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** Meet at the entrance to Lovers Lane on R Street (in between 31st Street and Avon Place) Join staff from Dumbarton Oaks Park Conservancy and the National Park Service and help tackle invasive plants from the historic landscape of Dumbarton Oaks Park. Learn about the unique park and the conservancy’s efforts to restore it. For more information visit www.dopark.org.
- **Winter Night Sky 1:00 p.m. in the Planetarium** Discover the brightest stars, planets, and constellations and hear their stories in the only planetarium in the National Park System. Recommended for ages 5 to adult.
- **Save Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Trees! 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Location TBA** Join Rock Creek Conservancy and the National Park Service in the battle against English ivy, an invasive vine that chokes and kills park trees. For more information, visit www.rockcreekconservancy.org.
- **Astronomy Stars: Women Who Changed the Night 4:00 p.m. in the Planetarium** Napoleon Bonaparte once said that, “Men of genius are meteors, destined to light up their century.” But what about women of genius? Join Ranger Tony for a unique Women’s History Month planetarium program focusing on female astronomers and their discoveries. Recommended for ages 7 to adult.

Sunday, March 9

- **All Tied up in Knots! 10:00 a.m. at Old Stone House** Calling all kids: did you know that Georgetown in days past was a seaport and that oceangoing vessels anchored on Rock Creek?! Learn about seafaring life and how shipmen tied knots during this hands- on program—be prepared to tie knots of your own. Recommended for ages 7 to 12 and their families.
- **Winter Night Sky 1:00 p.m. in the Planetarium** See description above for March 8th.
- **Exploring the Universe 4:00 p.m. in the Nature Center** Visit distant galaxies, nebulae, and other deep space objects and discover the wide world of astronomy without ever leaving your seat. Recommended for ages 7 to adult.

Wednesday, March 12

- **Young Planetarium 4:00 p.m. in the Planetarium** Calling all kids: discover the wonders of the night sky during this introductory astronomy program. Geared for ages 4 to 10 and their families.

Friday, March 14

- **Creature Feature 4:00 p.m. in the Nature Center** Calling all kids: learn about park wildlife and help the ranger feed the Nature Center’s live critters during this hands- on program.

Saturday, March 15

- **A Women’s History of Old Stone House 10:00 a.m. at Old Stone House** During a time when men owned most everything, did you know that the oldest building in DC was owned by a woman? Come join a ranger as we celebrate Women's History Month by taking a tour through the Old Stone House. We will explore the influence of women on the house, from colonial days to the present.
- **Winter Night Sky 1:00 p.m. in the Nature Center** See description for March 8th.
- **Save Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Trees! 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Location TBA** See description for March 8th.
- **Astronomy Stars: Women Who Changed the Night 4:00 p.m. in the Planetarium** See description for March 8th.

Sunday, March 16

- **Winter Night Sky 1:00 p.m. in the Planetarium** See description for March 8th.
- **Exploring the Universe 4:00 p.m. in the Planetarium** See description for March 9th.

Wednesday, March 19

- **Young Planetarium 4:00 p.m. in the Planetarium** See description for March 12th.

Friday, March 21

- **Creature Feature 4:00 p.m. in the Nature Center** See description for March 14th.

Saturday, March 22

- **Save Dumbarton Oaks Park! 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** Meet at the entrance to Lovers Lane on R Street (in between 31st Street and Avon Place) See description for March 8th.

Saturday, March 22 Continued

- **Joan of Arc: Vive La France!** 10:00 a.m. at the Joan of Arc statue in Meridian Hill Park Meridian Hill Park’s Joan of Arc statue is the only statue of a woman on horseback in DC. But who was Joan of Arc and why do we have a statue of her? Interpretive Intern Amy Grogan invites you to join her for an informative talk about a unique woman.
- **Spring Night Sky** 1:00 p.m. in the Planetarium Discover the brightest stars, planets, and constellations and hear their stories in the only planetarium in the National Park System. Recommended for ages 5 to adult.
- **Elizabeth Thomas and her Battle of Fort Stevens** 2:00 p.m. in the Nature Center The lives of Washingtonians changed drastically during the four years of the Civil War, no one more so than Elizabeth Thomas. An African American farm owner, Thomas’s property was taken by the U.S. Army to build Fort Stevens. Was she compensated for her losses? Discover the life and legacy of a unique woman with living history interpreter Patricia Tyson and documentary producer/researcher Marvin T. Jones.
- **Astronomy Stars: Women Who Changed the Night** 4:00 p.m. in the Planetarium Napoleon Bonaparte once said that, “Men of genius are meteors, destined to light up their century.” But what about women of genius? Join Ranger Tony for a unique Women’s History Month planetarium program focusing on female astronomers and their discoveries. Recommended for ages 7 to adult.

Sunday, March 23

- **History Hike** 11:00 a.m. Meet at the Nature Center Discover a Civil War fortress that saw action during the Battle of Fort Stevens, an eccentric poet’s cabin, and historic creek ford during this two mile hike with park volunteer and former ranger Michael Zwelling.
- **Spring Night Sky** 1:00 p.m. in the Planetarium See description for March 22nd.
- **Exploring the Universe** 4:00 p.m. in the Planetarium Visit distant galaxies, nebulae, and other deep space objects and discover the wide world of astronomy without ever leaving your seat. Recommended for ages 7 to adult.

Wednesday, March 26

- **Young Planetarium** 4:00 p.m. in the Planetarium Calling all kids: discover the wonders of the night sky during this introductory astronomy program. Geared for ages 4 to 10 and their families.

Friday, March 28

- **Creature Feature** 4:00 p.m. in the Nature Center Calling all kids: learn about park wildlife and help the ranger feed the Nature Center’s live critters during this hands- on program.

Saturday, March 29

- **Dialogue with China: Wildlife Conservation** 10:30 a.m. in the Nature Center Join Peter B. Ward of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service International Affairs Office for a special slideshow presentation discussing U.S.- China cooperation on wildlife and habitat conservation. Efforts to reduce the demand for elephant ivory will also be discussed. This program is cosponsored by the Organization for Chinese American Women- Maryland Chapter.
- **Spring Night Sky** 1:00 p.m. in the Planetarium See description for March 23rd.
- **Astronomy Stars: Women Who Changed the Night** 4:00 p.m. in the Planetarium See description for March 22nd.

Sunday, March 30

- **Beatrix Farrand’s Masterpiece: An Early Spring Walking Tour of Dumbarton Oaks Park** 10:00 a.m. Meet at the Montrose Park bulletin board Did you know that from the 1920s to the 1950s, pioneering female landscape architect Beatrix Farrand was busy at work designing the 27- acre Dumbarton Oaks Park in Georgetown? Discover her signature on the land and search for signs of spring during this one- hour walking tour in honor of Women’s History Month.
- **Spring Night Sky** 1:00 p.m. in the Planetarium See description above for March 8th.
- **Exploring the Universe** 4:00 p.m. in the Planetarium See description for March 23rd.

Rock Creek Park Visitor Center Locations and Hours

Nature Center & Planetarium = 5200 Glover Road, NW. Open Wednesday through Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Hiking trail maps and park information, plant and animal exhibits, children’s environmental education discovery room, bilingual exhibits, bookstore.

Old Stone House = 3051 M Street, NW. Open daily, 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The oldest building and home in Washington, DC, self guiding tours, bookstore, information on Georgetown national parks.

Pierce Mill = 2401 Tilden Street, NW. Closed for winter, but will open for season on April 1st. Historic 1820s water-powered gristmill, self-guiding tours, park and mill information. Milling demonstrations on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month from April through October.